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**From:** Walts, Alan [walts.alan@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 5/3/2019 12:30:45 PM  
**To:** Borries, Samuel [borries.samuel@epa.gov]; Short, Thomas [short.thomas@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Ballotti, Doug [ballotti.douglas@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Recap Meeting with Regional Administrator Stepp and Southeast Side Community Representatives

Got it, thanks Sam

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Director, Multi-media Programs Office  
U.S. EPA, Region 5  
Phone: (312) 353-8894

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**From:** Borries, Samuel  
**Sent:** Friday, May 03, 2019 7:30 AM  
**To:** Walts, Alan <walts.alan@epa.gov>; Short, Thomas <short.thomas@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Ballotti, Doug <ballotti.douglas@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Recap Meeting with Regional Administrator Stepp and Southeast Side Community Representatives

Hi Alan,

If it is not too late for item 5.a.ii below we should add that this pertains to the removal program data that has been collected in the area around SH Bell. I don't want to leave the impression that we are continuing to sample the neighborhood and will be looking for more Tier 1 homes.

Sam Borries  
Chief, Emergency Response Branch 2  
USEPA Region 5, Superfund Division  
Office: 312-353-8360  
Mobile: 312-802-5336

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**From:** Walts, Alan  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 2, 2019 1:32 PM  
**To:** Short, Thomas <short.thomas@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Borries, Samuel <borries.samuel@epa.gov>; Ballotti, Doug <ballotti.douglas@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Recap Meeting with Regional Administrator Stepp and Southeast Side Community Representatives

Thanks Tom

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Director, Multi-media Programs Office  
U.S. EPA, Region 5  
Phone: (312) 353-8894

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**From:** Short, Thomas  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 02, 2019 1:20 PM  
**To:** Walts, Alan <walts.alan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Borries, Samuel <borries.samuel@epa.gov>; Ballotti, Doug <ballotti.douglas@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Recap Meeting with Regional Administrator Stepp and Southeast Side Community Representatives

Alan, see changes below.

## 5. Manganese/Lead in Soil Investigation and Remediation:

a. SH Bell:

- i. EPA will evaluate the opportunity to undertake removal actions at properties with levels of manganese that exceed 5,500 1,600 ppm. ~~including, for example, expediting remediation where homes include children under 7 years old, pregnant women, other health-compromised individuals, or homes where visiting children spent a significant number of hours in the home (even if they do not live there).~~
- ii. EPA will evaluated the opportunity to undertake removal actions at properties with levels of lead exceeding 1,200 ppm with sensitive populations i.e., where homes include children under 7 years old or pregnant women. ~~will respond to our questions regarding the standard it will apply as action levels for the removal of lead in soil in the residential area surrounding the SH Bell facility. We specifically discussed that EPA's materials reference 400 ppm as the appropriate removal level for this investigation. It will also look for opportunities to address contamination at properties with lead levels exceeding 400 ppm.~~
- iii. EPA will release to this group its signed "decision document" regarding the remediation of properties in the residential area surrounding SH Bell

b. Watco:

- i. EPA has committed to immediately undertaking a soil investigation in the area surrounding on residential properties to the south and southeast of the Watco facility.
- ii. EPA will prioritize soil investigation at the baseball field which is used for children's little league games.
- iii. EPA will communicate sampling results when they are available. ~~We also request that EPA alert the community to the possibility of contaminated soil at the baseball field as soon as possible.~~

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**From:** Walts, Alan

**Sent:** Thursday, May 02, 2019 10:48 AM

**To:** Short, Thomas <short.thomas@epa.gov>

**Subject:** FW: Recap Meeting with Regional Administrator Stepp and Southeast Side Community Representatives

**Importance:** High

Here you go - thanks

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Director, Multi-media Programs Office  
U.S. EPA, Region 5  
Phone: (312) 353-8894

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**From:** Walts, Alan

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 30, 2019 8:57 AM

**To:** Short, Thomas <short.thomas@epa.gov>; Compher, Michael <compher.michael@epa.gov>; Furey, Eileen <furey.eileen@epa.gov>

**Subject:** FW: Recap Meeting with Regional Administrator Stepp and Southeast Side Community Representatives

**Importance:** High

Hi – could you please give me your feedback on whether this email accurately states the commitments and next steps coming out of the 4/16 meeting? I have reviewed and the only area I'd want to clarify is under #3 – while I'm certainly open to facilitating meetings if that is helpful and appropriate, I recorded the discussion as more broadly about ensuring they have every opportunity our SEP policy allows and encourages; and offering my help in building a "SEP bank" of potential SEPs for the area that reflect community priorities and needs.

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Director, Multi-media Programs Office  
U.S. EPA, Region 5  
Phone: (312) 353-8894

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**From:** Deborah Gail Musiker <[Debbie.M.Chizewer@law.northwestern.edu](mailto:Debbie.M.Chizewer@law.northwestern.edu)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 29, 2019 4:10 PM  
**To:** Walts, Alan <[walts.alan@epa.gov](mailto:walts.alan@epa.gov)>; Thiede, Kurt <[thiede.kurt@epa.gov](mailto:thiede.kurt@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Geertsma, Meleah <[mgeertsma@nrdc.org](mailto:mgeertsma@nrdc.org)>; Harley, Keith ([kharley@kentlaw.iit.edu](mailto:kharley@kentlaw.iit.edu)) <[kharley@kentlaw.iit.edu](mailto:kharley@kentlaw.iit.edu)>  
**Subject:** Recap Meeting with Regional Administrator Stepp and Southeast Side Community Representatives  
**Importance:** High

Dear Regional Administrator Stepp,

Thank you for making the time to meet with us on April 16, 2019. We appreciated the opportunity to share the public health and environmental concerns facing the Southeast Side of Chicago.

We are grateful for your attention to addressing these pressing environmental justice issues and keeping an ongoing dialogue. Please see below our understanding of the commitments made and next steps:

**1. Continued Engagement:**

- a. Regional Administrator Stepp and her team will come for a Southeast Side tour.
- b. Regional Administrator Stepp and her team will meet with the group of community leaders and advocates on a quarterly basis, beginning with a meeting to be held on the Southeast Side in conjunction with the tour.
- c. Community leaders would like to include the Chicago Department of Public Health in at least one meeting.

**2. Schroud Site Signage and Fencing:**

- a. Community leaders will provide EPA Region 5 with preferences for signage design and EPA will implement these proposals to the maximum extent possible.
- b. Community leaders will make recommendations for appropriate fencing locations to deter use of the extremely dangerous Schroud site.

**3. Supplemental Environmental Projects for the SE Side:**

Alan Walz will facilitate meetings with community leaders and local facilities under enforcement actions to further supplemental environmental projects that originate in and receive approval from the community, and are primarily facilitated by community members, and reflect the

connection between industrial pollution in the community and the public health and environmental impacts in the community.

#### **4. Air Monitoring and Other Data:**

- a. EPA Region 5 will promote the public accessibility of air monitoring data in the community by coordinating with local and state agencies to share and post data.
- b. EPA Region 5 will work with state and local partners to understand cumulative impacts in the community.
- c. EPA will make accessible all air monitoring data for facilities within Region 5.

#### **5. Manganese/Lead in Soil Investigation and Remediation:**

##### **a. SH Bell:**

- i. EPA will evaluate the opportunity to undertake removal actions at properties with levels of manganese that exceed 5,500 ppm. ~~, including, for example, expediting remediation where homes include children under 7 years old, pregnant women, other health-compromised individuals, or homes where visiting children spent a significant number of hours in the home (even if they do not live there).~~ EPA d
- ii. EPA will evaluated the opportunity to undertake removal actions at properties with levels of lead exceeding 1,200 ppm with sensitive populations i.e., where homes include children under 7 years old, pregnant women, other health-compromised individuals. ~~–will respond to our questions regarding the standard it will apply as action levels for the removal of lead in soil in the residential area surrounding the SH Bell facility. We specifically discussed that EPA’s materials reference 400 ppm as the appropriate removal level for this investigation. It will also look for opportunities to address contamination at properties with lead levels exceeding 400 ppm.~~
- iii. EPA will release to this group its signed “decision document” regarding the remediation of properties in the residential area surrounding SH Bell

##### **b. Watco:**

- i. EPA has committed to immediately undertaking soil investigation in the area surrounding to the south and southeast of the Watco facility.
- ii. EPA will prioritize soil investigation at the baseball field which is used for children’s little league games, if we can obtain access.
- iii. EPA will communicate sampling results when they are available. ~~We also request that EPA alert the community to the possibility of contaminated soil at the baseball field as soon as possible.~~

We look forward to hearing from you soon and continuing our dialogue.

Best,

Southeast Environmental Task Force: Peggy Salazar; Yessenia Balcazar; Keith Harley (attorney); Daryl Grable (attorney)

Southeast Side Coalition to Ban Petcoke; Martha Allen; Kelly Nichols; Debbie Chizewer (attorney)

Natural Resources Defense Council: Meleah Geertsma